



**CITY OF SANTA BARBARA  
CREEKS RESTORATION/WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT  
CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**September 12, 2007**

**DAVID GEBHARD PUBLIC MEETING ROOM, 630 GARDEN STREET**

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**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Jordan called the meeting to order at 5:36pm.

**ROLL CALL**

Committee members present: Chair Jordan, Lee Moldaver, Jeff Phillips, George Weber, Daniel Wilson

Committee members absent: Daniel Hochman, Bruce Klobucher

Liaison members present: Park and Recreation Commissioner Beebe Longstreet

Liaison members absent: County Project Clean Water Liaison Rob Almy,  
Councilmember Iya Falcone, Planning Commissioner John Jostes

Staff present: Assistant Parks and Recreation Director Jill E. Zachary, Creeks Restoration/Clean Water Manager Cameron Benson, Creeks Water Quality Project Coordinator Jill Murray

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion:

Committee members Moldaver/Phillips to approve the minutes of the special meeting of September 27, 2007.

Vote:

Voice vote 3/0; Weber and Wilson abstained.

**AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS**

None.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

No one wished to speak.

## COMMITTEE MEMBER AND STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Moldaver acknowledged Creeks Outreach Coordinator Jessica Scheeter and noted the importance of hiring someone equally capable to fill her position in the Creeks Division.

## MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Benson announced the completion of the Soledad bioswale project near Sycamore Creek. The bioswale was designed to capture and filter polluted runoff from the street, and was constructed by several Youth Apprentices under the supervision of Creeks Division staff.

Mr. Benson also discussed several upcoming creek and ocean related events, including the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Ocean Ducks Channel Swim, Coastal Clean-Up Day, Surfrider Foundation Paddle Out for Clean Water, and various Creek Week activities.

Mr. Jordan noted that he is happy to see the other organizations' events on the Creeks calendar, and encouraged committee members to share any information on other creek and ocean-related events in the community with the Committee and Creeks Division staff.

## BUSINESS ITEMS

### 8a. Plan Santa Barbara

#### Recommendation:

That the Committee hear a presentation by Planning Division staff on the Plan Santa Barbara – *Community Input Summary Report*, and provide comments as appropriate.

#### Documents:

Staff Report – September 2007

Power Point Presentation – September 2007

#### Speakers:

John Ledbetter, Principal Planner, Community Development Department

#### Committee Questions/Discussion:

Committee members asked questions regarding the best approach and timing for the Committee to provide input; and, whether Plan Santa Barbara has analyzed the goals of previous General Plans and whether they have been met, are ongoing, or are no longer pertinent.

Mr. Ledbetter reported that the Community Development Department is looking for the Committee's broad perspective on creeks and water quality

issues, and feedback on policies, existing goals and priorities; and, that Community Development staff is in the process of analyzing previous goals.

Committee members expressed concerns regarding the balance of density and open space downtown related to creeks; the need for and difficulty with public/private partnerships; the ability to translate key creeks goals and issues into policies and codes; how the Community Development Department and the Creeks Division can work together cohesively; and, the disconnect between political will and implementation of policies.

Committee members asked questions regarding elements of the General Plan in which creeks policies are already present; whether Community Development has contacted similar communities that have planned around watershed protection; the methodology of public outreach, especially to reach renters and the Latino population; and, suggested directing outreach to high schools and Spanish-speaking churches.

Mr. Ledbetter reported that once priorities are established, Community Development can best see where updates are needed; staff has employed a watershed-based planning perspective; and, that outreach has included advertising on Spanish television and radio stations, Spanish translation of the brochure, visits to businesses frequented by the Spanish-speaking community, and reaching out to youth.

Committee members asked questions regarding valuing creeks as living ecosystems; the City's current creek setback policies; whether a targeted poll is being considered for groups or neighborhoods particularly affected by creeks issues; whether data the Creeks Division has prepared, such as information from watershed community forums, will be included; whether the Creeks Division has been involved in the General Plan Update thus far; and, whether methodology has been based on recent history or various scenarios to create predictions.

Mr. Ledbetter reported that input received thus far has pertained to broad visions and they have not yet looked at the specifics; the option and timing of polling is being carefully considered, and Community Development would be willing to co-sponsor a forum to raise consciousness on creeks issues; the Creeks Division has been involved in the General Plan Update and has helped identify issues; and, that staff is taking historical trends, assumptions and potential development into consideration.

Chair Jordan suggested a work session to identify key issues and priorities in the General Plan relating to creeks.

**Break at 6:47pm.**

**Back to order at 6:55pm.**

**Ms. Longstreet was absent when the Committee returned from break.**

**8b. Laguna Watershed Study and Water Quality Improvement Feasibility Analysis  
Contracts**

**Recommendation:**

That the Committee receive an update on the Clean Beaches Initiative Proposition 50 grant for the Laguna Watershed Study and Water Quality Improvement Feasibility Analysis. Concur with Staff recommendation to recommend that Council award a contract to Geosyntec Consultants in the amount of \$105,374 for conducting a watershed study, feasibility analysis, and concept plans. Concur with Staff recommendation to recommend that Council award a contract to the University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB) in the amount of \$48,998 to conduct the microbial source tracking component of the watershed study.

**Documents:**

Staff Report – September 2007

Power Point Presentation – September 2007

**Speakers:**

Jill Murray, Creeks Water Quality Project Coordinator

**Committee Questions/Discussion:**

Committee Members asked questions regarding the sole source procedure for awarding contracts; whether the feasibility analysis will only consider end-of-pipe treatment; whether feasibility analysis will include looking at side effects as well as desired effects of treatment options; whether solar power will be considered for end-of-pipe projects; whether existing data the Creeks Division has gathered will be shared with the consultant; whether there is potential funding available for the project; whether the two year timeline only includes work by Geosyntec and UCSB; whether UCSB will share results with Geosyntec; and, whether sampling will begin soon regardless of drought conditions.

Ms. Murray reported that the sole source process does not include going out to bid - staff recommends selected consultant to the Creeks Advisory Committee, the General Services office, and then to City Council; that an end-of-pipe treatment is not the only option to be considered; that specific consideration will be given to power consumption of projects; that all data the Creeks Division has will be made available to the consultant, and the

process will begin with additional information gathering; it may be possible to apply for Proposition 84 funds at the completion of preliminary design; the two year timeline includes several months of field work by UCSB, approximately six months for Geosyntec to complete the feasibility analysis and concept designs, followed by environmental review, and four to six months for preliminary design; UCSB and Geosyntec will work hand in hand throughout the project; and, that as soon as the contracts are awarded, staff will work with consultants to decide when sampling will begin.

Motion:

Committee members Moldaver/Wilson to concur with staff recommendation and advise the City Council to award the contracts as outlined.

Vote:

Unanimous voice vote.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion:

Committee Members Wilson/Weber to adjourn.

Chair Jordan adjourned the meeting at 7:23pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Cameron Benson  
Creeks Restoration/Clean Water Manager